

Three-Phase Electrical Power For The Dairy Farm

(Continued from Page 51)

purchasing a grain drying system with a 30-horsepower fan for each bin. The utility company would provide the three-phase power at no upfront charge, but then the farmer would be charged a commercial rate for his electricity usage. The farmer negotiated that he would pay \$3,500 to have the three-phase power installed and then continue to pay residential rates.

Even if you get three-phase power, you can continue to operate your present single-phase motors on one leg of three-phase power, but then you are obviously not reaping all the benefits of three-phase power. In the event that you cannot get three-phase power, three-phase motors can be operated on single-phase power, but only if a phase converter is used. Phase converters are costly and can be expensive to operate.

Dairy farmers must establish energy strategies to cope with the threats of higher prices for energy and an insufficient supply of energy. Decisions regarding single-phase or three-phase power represent one component of the many components in developing, implementing, and updating an energy strategy.

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